

# The Gateway

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# editorial

Students often feel a Students' Union executive has no other function than to shuffle papers and worry about such silly make-believe "important" matters as the SU constitution and by-laws. The Zoeteman executive this year seems to have had such charges levelled at it more often than either of the past two administrations of Joe McGhie and Graeme Leadbeater, and it sees unfair to me. The constitution and by-laws have been virtually unchanged now for three years; the result is we (the SU) are saddled with an outmoded, unworkable series of "rules" which the Zoeteman executive is struggling to put in order before the new SU executive is elected next month. This is an arduous task - made arduous because both the McGhie slate and the Leadbeater slate *ignored* the constitution and by-law, choosing instead the flashy political limelight to guide them.

McGhie, along with the 1974-75 council speaker Rick Cooper, did revise the constitution and by-laws, but the job was incomplete and often tended towards brevity at the expense of clarity and feasibility. McGhie, as the law rep on the 1975-75 council following his term as president, was supposed to sit *ex officio* on the constitution and by-law reform committee but elected to dropout before any of the committee real work could begin. Leadbeater did not touch the documents after McGhie left.

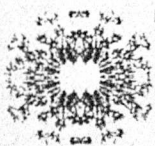
Now Zoeteman's slate (or at least a few people on it, as usual) have begun to re-examine and re-work the constitution and by-laws. Hopefully the executive will make our laws relevant and valid again. Although judgement cannot be passed until the job is finished, the very fact some executive members are willing to begin such a worthwhile project in the final two months of their jobs, indicates a type of devotion one saw from student councillors when there was a real student movement, a real feeling of brotherhood among students on this campus.

The results of the department chairmen's questionnaire have been tabulated; the question now is how much importance members of the campus community should attach to these results. I don't think we can consider the figures important as either a negative or positive reaction to the proposal since the questionnaire has been influenced by so many factors since it was formulated and distributed. The form of the questionnaire is faulty in that it provides a box for those people who wish to check a complete support of the chairmen's proposal but no box for those who are completely opposed. The wording of accompanying documentation implied the questionnaire, which in fact was an informal opinion poll, was somehow a "ballot" and therefore of official significance.

The reaction upon distribution of the "ballots" surely influenced the results, too, since both the AASUA and the Executive Committee of the Arts Faculty asked staff members to reject the questionnaires. Responses to the questionnaires were gathered by placing a box in front of the door outside the GFC second floor University Hall office (and, as GFC secretary M. McCaughan says, no one watched who placed into or withdrew from the box). And so on.

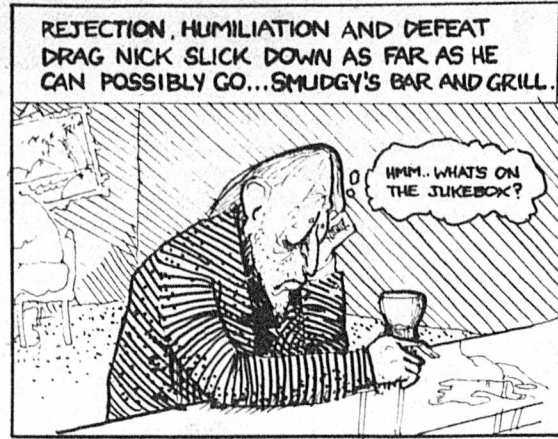
There were so many such irregularities in the wording, distribution and collection of the questionnaire responses that I think for anyone to attach significance to them would be improper. The money used by the survey was badly spent - if we had desired a formal ballot, we should have set one up, with proper form and proper collection. Until such time as we, the campus community, choose to do so, we cannot try to empirically judge any reaction on campus.

by Kevin Gillese



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# BUB SLUG by Delaney & Rasmussen



REJECTION, HUMILIATION AND DEFEAT  
 DRAG NICK SLICK DOWN AS FAR AS HE  
 CAN POSSIBLY GO... SMUDGY'S BAR AND GRILL.



I CAN'T STAND THAT DAMN HARDHAT AND PIG-SHAVE! THAT POTATO-NOSE MAKES ME SICK!!



# Zola rolls in his grave

This morning I was confronted during my Chem class with a petition which stated "J'accuse the French government of political cowardice and blatant collaboration with the international terrorists by releasing Abu Daoud, organizer of the

slaughter at the 1972 Munich Olympics."

It is obvious from this, the first of three similar accusations contained in the petition, that the author and those who circulated this petition are very concerned about what seems to be a miscarriage of justice.

It is unfortunate to note,

however, that by stating outright that Abu Daoud was the organizer of the Munich incident the author has convicted him of the crime without benefit of judge and/or jury.

Is this any more just?

I am quite fed up with people representing various undoubtedly worthy causes, who ask me to support them and their cause by signing petitions of this nature. I find it impossible to support something of this nature, but by not signing it, I seem to commit myself to the apathetic multitude.

Please, please, when you circulate a petition, make sure you say what you want! The potential signers should be allowed to judge the petition on its merits, not be forced to ignore it, simply because the author overextended himself.

D.A. McWhinnie

# No apathy really...

It's no small wonder that students are continually being accused of being apathetic. The cause of student apathy does not lie with the student! I've said it before, and I'll say it again, "How in hell can one be apathetic about something one knows nothing about?!"

Well folks, we've been handed another wiener. Our election rally booking for OUR Students' Union Theatre has been quietly cancelled by people supposedly working for us!! Now, we may be able to pile 450 students into a Tory Lecture theatre while CBC enjoys OUR 650-seat theatre and intercom system.

There is certainly something wrong here. It's time our employees started working for us again. If you're as sick as I am about being called apathetic, vote.

Patrick Hahn  
Arts 2

# \$40 in fines, please

I submitted a request for a book on 3 January 1977, and was told by the library staff that I might get hold of the book within a few days since the book has been borrowed by a "faculty member," and is now overdue (Due Sept, 1976.)

I am still unable to get hold of the book.

The reason is simply: it has been signed out by a Professor and despite the various phone calls they make to try to recall the book and the subsequent "promises" that the book will be returned the following day, the book never made its appearance in the library.

As a believer that the library is meant for *all users*, I do have the following query arising from the above mentioned incident: Is there any measure to make faculty members return books which are overdue other than just trying "to recall by phone," since if this technique fails, the disappointed user (like me) will just be barred from the usage of those particular books held by our honourable faculty members?

Recall also the fact that we, ordinary users, will have to pay 25¢ per day accumulatively for any book that is overdue.

A disappointed library user

# Byte byte Amdahl, have you any data?

Remember goldfish swallowing? How about streaking? Well, a new popular activity has come to town: byte chasing!

Right here in Edmonton, a couple of hobby computer enthusiasts have begun to form their own hobby computer club. Their small ad in that other newspaper gave three phone numbers to call for more information (467-0793, 465-3279, 436-9737); your intrepid reporter, on phoning the first of these numbers, learned that the group hadn't been formed yet, but is holding a founding meeting at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 20.

The two founding members already have their own IMSAI 8080's. The purpose of the club is to enable hobbyists to exchange information on construction and purchasing of home computers, as well as, eventually, software.

Also present will be the people planning to set up a hobby computer store in Edmonton (Calgary already has two), and as many persons interested in jobby computing as they can worm out of the woodwork.

The place? 92 Granville Crescent, Sherwood Park.

John Savard  
Grad Studies